

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

ACADEMIC SENATE

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

REPORT TO

THE ACADEMIC SENATE

AP-003-212

Revised Charter for Science, Technology, and Society Major and Minor

Academic Programs Committee

Date: 10/11/2022

**Executive Committee
Received and Forwarded**

Date: 10/26/2022

Academic Senate

**Date: 11/09/2022
First Reading
12/07/2022
Second Reading**

BACKGROUND:

Science, Technology, and Society (STS) is an interdisciplinary program sponsored by the College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences, with primary responsibility resting with its Philosophy Department. Policy AS-2271-078/AP governs its administrative structure, with implementation oversight by the AVP for Academic Programs.

Policy AS-2271-078 AP requires that interdisciplinary programs establish a charter, which must include a faculty advisory board, a sponsoring unit, and a program coordinator; describe the types of policies that a typical non-interdisciplinary program would have in place and describe its evaluation and review policies. STS created such a charter, which was adopted by the Senate in November 2017 (AP-024-167) and subsequently approved by the President (AS-2757-178/AP and AS-2271-078/AP). The latter document stipulates that affected College Curriculum Committees sign off on changes to the charter.

In a Spring 2019 review of the STS program (see AP-014-190), the external reviewers commended the program and suggested that its advisory board be restructured to include at least one representative from each participating college and to create an unconstrained affiliated faculty group responsible for ad-hoc advice and student project oversight. The STS program coordinator, the advisory board, and Philosophy Department implemented and approved the corresponding changes in a preliminary charter revision.

RESOURCES CONSULTED:

Dr. Peter Ross, Coordinator of the STS Program
Dr. Dale Turner, Chair of the Philosophy Department
AVP Laura Massa, Academic Programs
Dean Sara Garver, CLASS
Dean Alison Baski, College of Science
Associate Deans of all Colleges
Past STS Advisory Board Members
Current STS Advisory Board Members
Affected College Curriculum Committees

DISCUSSION and RECOMMENDATION:

The Academic Programs committee discussed the referral and agreed that a restructuring of the STS Board and creation of an affiliated faculty group would be beneficial to the administration of the program. After consultation with Drs. Peter Ross (current STS Program Coordinator) and Laura Massa (AVP, Academic Programs), the document was revised to (a) specify the manner of appointment of the program coordinator and their qualifications, rather than a named individual, (b) align the program review with university policy, and (c) reorganize the language on the composition and role of the Board and Affiliated Faculty Group. The amended revised charter was consulted; no objections were raised.

The Academic Programs Committee recommends approval of AP-003-212, Revised Charter for Science, Technology, and Society Major and Minor, as amended.